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1955/04/06

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TELEGRAM RECEIVED

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FROM : DEPARTMENT

DATE : APRIL 06, 1955 1900

No. : 4366 NIACT

CLASSIFICATION : ~~TOP SECRET~~

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NIACT SENT SAIGON 4366 PARIS 3560.

1. RE SAIGON'S 4349 REPEATED PARIS 1168, PARA 18: DEPARTMENT T
CONCURS IN RECOMMENDATIONS (IN WHICH WE UNDERSTAND ELY CONCURS)
THAT US AND FRENCH GOVERNMENTS "MAKE JOINT APPROACH TO BAO DAI
TO SECURE HIS AGREEMENT TO BACK DIEM FULLY NOT ONLY IN DISMISSING
SANG BUT IN REMOVING POLICE ENTIRELY FROM BINH XUYEN CONTROL".
HOWEVER DEPARTMENT CONCURS IN THIS APPROACH TO BAO DAI ON
CONDITION THAT FRENCH GOVERNMENT ACCEPTS PURPOSE OF SUCH INTER-
VENTION IN EXACTLY SAME TERMS AS QUOTED FROM COLLINS REFTTEL ABOVE.
IN ADDITION WE BELIEVE THERE SHOULD BE FRENCH-US AGREEMENT ON
TIME LIMIT FOR BAO DAI TO TAKE THE NECESSARY ACTION ALONG THE
LINES OF JOINT RECOMMENDATION. AS FAR AS BAO DAI IS CONCERNED,
THE DEPARTMENT WOULD STRONGLY HOPE US AND FRENCH REPRESENTATIVES,
WOULD INSIST ON SEEING TEXT OF HIS TELEGRAM. IN MAKING THIS
JOINT DEMARCHE AMERICAN REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD PRESENT US POSITION
AS CONTAINED IN PARAGRAPHS 1 & 3 DEPARTMENT TELEGRAM 4284 TO
SAIGON REPEATED PARIS 3498.
IN ADDITION US REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD INFORM BAO DAI THAT WE

By MLE Date 7-6-87

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PAGE TWO 4366 FROM DEPARTMENT NIACI

BELIEVE DIEM HAS INHERENT RIGHT AS WELL AS CAPABILITY REESTABLISH AUTHORITY CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OVER NATIONAL POLICE. IF THIS IS DONE, CONDITIONS WOULD BE CREATED WHICH COULD LEAD TO CONSTRUCTIVE STRENGTHENING OF GOVERNMENT UNDER DIEM AND POSSIBLY SATISFACTORY ADJUSTMENT OF ROLE AND FUNCTIONS OF RELIGIOUS SECTS. BUT IF DIEM'S AUTHORITY IS DEFIED AND IMMOBILIZED, THEN NO GOVERNMENT WILL BE ABLE TO OPERATE IN VIETNAM AND STRUCTURE MAY COLLAPSE. MOCKERY WILL BE MADE OF SACRIFICE AND HEROISM OF ANTI-COMMUNIST VIETNAMESE INCLUDING REFUGEES. FURTHERMORE CONTEMPLATED US AID OF SEVERAL HUNDRED MILLION DOLLARS THIS YEAR COULD THEREFORE NOT BE JUSTIFIED. AND OTHER POINTS IN RECENT DEPTELS WHICH EMBASSY PARIS FEELS WOULD BE PERSUASIVE SHOULD ALSO BE MADE TO BAO DAI.

2. AS THIS IS MATTER OF GRAVE IMPORTANCE, THE SECRETARY WISHES ACHILLES MAKE THIS REPRESENTATION ON BEHALF US IN ORDER ASSURE MAXIMUM STRENGTH AND EFFECTIVENESS OF DEMARCHE.

3. FRENCH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND GENERAL ELY APPARENTLY BELIEVE THAT IT IS NOT POSSIBLE TO DIVIDE SECTS IN TWO CATAGORIES AND THAT THEREFORE THE SECTS SHOULD BE TREATED AS ONE AND ASSUMED TO BE UNITED (PARIS 4328 REPEATED SAIGON 635 AND SAIGON'S 4348 REPEATED PARIS 1167, PARA 5-C). THIS IS FUNDAMENTAL DIVERGENCE IN US AND FRENCH APPROACH AT THIS TIME. IF OUR POSITION IS VALID THAT RELIGIOUS SECTS ON ONE HAND AND BINH XUYEN ON OTHER CAN

~~TOP SECRET~~

~~TOP SECRET~~

PAGE THREE 4366 FROM DEPARTMENT

CONTACT

BE TREATED DIFFERENTLY AS SUGGESTED IN GENERAL TERMS IN
RECENT DEPTELS, DEPARTMENT WOULD LIKE TO HAVE SOONEST FROM SAIGON
SPECIFIC PLAN OF HOW CAO DAI AND HAO HAO MIGHT BE NEUTRALIZED
AND SEPARATED FROM BINH XUYEN.

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